



NOAA, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

Miami, Florida 33165

...Cold Weather to Continue Through Monday...

...Longest Cold Snap in Over a Decade...

The arctic air mass that has brought the much below normal temperatures to south Florida since New Year's weekend is now centered over the Florida peninsula. This has caused two consecutive mornings of below freezing temperatures across the Lake Okeechobee region. This morning's lows were slightly warmer than Wednesday morning, but still bottomed out in the upper 20s to lower 30s across most of Glades and Hendry counties, western Palm Beach County and inland sections of Collier County. Lows over the metropolitan areas of south Florida were held up by cloud cover that moved in overnight. Nevertheless, readings still dropped into the upper 30s at West Palm Beach, where a daily record low was established for the second consecutive day (37 degrees), and the lower 40s over the Miami-Dade and Broward county metro areas as well as in the immediate Naples area.

On Wednesday, January 6th, record lows were either tied or broken at West Palm Beach, Naples and Miami. In addition, record low maximum temperatures were broken at all four primary sites (West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Miami and Naples). Here's a listing of the daily records tied or broken on **Wednesday, January 6th**:

Site	Low (Previous Record/Year)	High (Previous Record/Year)
Miami International	40 (40/1919)	58 (62/1980)
Fort Lauderdale Int'l	38 (no record)	56 (63/1969)
Palm Beach Int'l	34 (37/1967)	55 (57/1919)
Naples Regional	35 (35/1999)	56 (64/1980)

Despite these daily temperature records, the most noteworthy aspect of this cold snap is the **duration of much below normal temperatures**. Low temperatures have been below 50 degrees at all main south Florida locations since January 2nd, with high temperatures failing to exceed 65 degrees during this period.

To put this in perspective, here are the current streaks of low temperatures **at or below 45 degrees** and the last time a similar or longer streak occurred:

Site	Days Min <= 45F (Last Time)
Miami International	4 (5 days in Dec 1989)
Fort Lauderdale Int'l	4 (5 days in Dec 1989)
Palm Beach Int'l	6 (6 days in Dec 1989)
Naples Regional	6 (6 days in Dec 1989)

In addition, West Palm Beach has had **4 consecutive days of low temperatures below 40 degrees**, the most since December 1989.

The consecutive number of low maximum temperatures is even more impressive. For example, **West Palm Beach has failed to reach 60 degrees for 3 consecutive days**. This ties the record for the longest streak of sub-60 degree highs set in January 1997, January 1977, January 1970 and February 1958. **Naples has failed to reach 60 degrees for 4 consecutive days**, tying the record set in February 1958. **Fort Lauderdale has failed to reach 60 degrees for 3 consecutive days**, the longest such streak since January 1977.

At Miami International Airport, **high temperatures haven't exceeded 65 degrees for 5 consecutive days**, the longest such stretch since December 1995 (8 days).

Temperatures are expected to moderate slightly into the lower 60s over most areas today and into the 70s on Friday ahead of a strong Arctic cold front which will move through south Florida late Friday night. Temperatures will once again plummet to much below normal values Saturday into Monday, with temperatures possibly even colder than what was observed the past 2 days.

All interests are advised to stay abreast of the upcoming cold blast and stay alert for any possible freeze watches and warnings, as well as wind chill advisories. Monitor NOAA Weather Radio, local media and the National Weather Service website at weather.gov/southflorida for further information.